For U.S. forces serving abroad

Stripes_m



A news digest from The Stars and Stripes

Monday, April 20, 1998

Eight pages

Wasp controls fire on container ship

By Stars and Stripes

Navy firefighters from the amphibious assault ship Wasp returned to their ship Sunday morning after battling raging fires on-board a Marshall Islands-flagged container vessel located 85 miles west of Crete.

The Wasp rushed to the aid of the ship Saturday morning after receiving a distress call reporting two fires in the aft end of the ship and two injured crew members, one of whom was still in the water. Both crew members were treated aboard the Wasp and later transferred to Agosta Bay, Crete.

"The Wasp detached from the scene early this morning after battling the fire throughout the night," said Cmdr. Brian Cullin, public affairs officer for the 6th Fleet, on Sunday. "The fire is contained and under control but not yet out."

Cullin said Wasp crew members turned the firefighting efforts over to two tugs, which were on the scene Sunday. Both possess firefighting capabilities as well as the ability to tow.

Two dozen Wasp crew members

were flown to the troubled ship to fight the fire. All have since returned to the Wasp.

Medical personnel from the assault ship treated the two injured men from the Marshall Islands' Sea-Land Mariner before transferring them off the ship.

One of the injured was believed to be a 45-year-old man with first- and second-degree burns to 7 percent of his body who was initially blown overboard.

The second man, 31, suffered facial lacerations and contusions to the lower half of his body from flying glass.

Both are said to be in stable condition.

It is unclear what caused the blaze, though Cullin said there is believed to have been at least one explosion that blew about 15 semitruck-sized containers overboard. Two AH-1W Cobra attack helicopters, armed with 20 mm cannons from the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit embarked on the Wasp, sank the containers, which posed a hazard to other vessels navigating in the area.

Napalm gets to California without protest

CHINA LAKE NAVAL WEAPONS CENTER, Calif. (AP) — A train laden with 12,000 gallons of napalm arrived quietly Sunday at this high desert base, without the kind of protests that forced its return to California from the Midwest.

The train and its load of jellied gasoline from the Vietnam War era arrived Sunday afternoon aboard a Burlington Northern Santa Fe freight car, said Jeannie Light, a Navy spokeswoman.

The napalm originally left a naval station in Fallbrook and headed east on April 11 but was stopped in Kansas City, Kan., after an Indiana company backed out of a deal to recycle it, citing political protests.

The napalm will be stored at the Navy center, about 120 miles northwest of Los Angeles, until another recycling company is found.

Navy Lt. Cmdr. John Smith called China Lake "a good, safe, temporary solution." Most in the neighboring city of Barstow agreed. "You can see this is not exactly prime real estate. The people living here have other things to worry about," Roy Salgado, a Barstow property manager, told the Orange County Register.

Could Iraq be ruled nuke-free country?

By New York Times

UNITED NATIONS — The International Atomic Energy Agency is moving close to declaring Iraq free of nuclear weapons, and some American experts are raising alarms and charging the agency with complacency. They say Iraq's record of deception and its wealth of talented scientists point to both the intention and ability to recreate an atomic program quickly.

Iraq "has already learned enough to be able to build a nuclear weapon in less

than a year," David Albright, president of the independent Institute for Science and International Security in Washington and a former inspector for the agency in Iraq, wrote in the May-June issue of The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists.

All that is required is enough enriched uranium or plutonium, which are available on the black market, he said.

In a report the week before last, the agency said Iraq had successfully compiled a "full, final and complete" account of its past nuclear weapons programs. It

also said that "the agency's ongoing monitoring and verification activities carried out since October 1997 have not revealed indications of the existence in Iraq of prohibited equipment or materials or of the conduct of prohibited activity."

Since 1991, when the U.N. Security Council ordered the complete destruction of prohibited weapons in Iraq after the Persian Gulf War, the agency has handled the nuclear work.

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Some warheads in Iraq are not accounted for

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Despite extensive excavation, U.N. arms experts have not yet accounted for all the warheads filled with biological agents that Iraq says it destroyed and buried in 1991, the director of the U.N. office here said Sunday.

Nils Carlstrom, a Swedish major general who heads the Baghdad Monitoring and Verification Center, said the U.N. inspectors would return soon with safety gear to resume the search for the warheads.

Carlstrom refused to say how many warheads have not been accounted for at the site outside Baghdad.

He said verifying the Iraqi claim that all were destroyed will take a "much longer time than previously thought."

Iraqi officials have said that 77 warheads were filled with biological agents and that the United Nations has accounted for 70 of them.

U.N. inspections were launched in 1991 to oversee the destruction of Iraq's biological, chemical and nuclear weapons as well as long-range missiles.

The U.N. Security Council has said it will not lift punishing trade sanctions, imposed after Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait, until U.N. inspectors verify that Iraq has eliminated its weapons of mass destruction.

A month's work by U.N. inspectors in search of the warheads ended March 12. Some of the searches involved sophisticated metal detectors, Carlstrom said.

Dissident's release part of secret U.S.-China deal

By Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — China's release of student leader Wang Dan represents one of the last steps in an extensive package deal secretly negotiated earlier this year by the Clinton administration and the Chinese government, according to administration officials and Chinese sources.

The deal, which set the stage both for President Clinton's visit to China in June and for Wang's release, was reached during a clandestine mission to Beijing on the weekend of March 7-8 by three Clinton administration officials.

"Let's just say we weren't surprised," said one administration official dryly after China freed Wang this weekend and allowed him to fly into exile in the United States.

A detailed reconstruction of the negotiations by the Los Angeles Times underscores that the freeing of dissidents has become a regular element of U.S.-Chinese diplomacy. Before or after each new step in Sino-American relations, the United States seeks the release of dissidents, and China seeks concessions in return.

Throughout the 1990s, China has extracted from the United States an unfolding array of benefits — including trade preferences, relaxed economic sanctions and high-level visits — in exchange for freeing troublesome dissidents from its prisons. In

some instances, China has won concessions for the same dissident twice — by freeing him, rearresting him and freeing him again.

The recent series of negotiations also raises questions about the wisdom of winning the release of dissidents only if they agree to leave the country.

The Northwest Airlines flight from Beijing to Detroit that Wang Dan took might well be dubbed the "nonstop to exile." It is the same flight onto which Wei Jingsheng, China's most famous dissident, was escorted when he was freed from nearly two decades in Chinese prisons last November.

"We're delighted that Wang Dan is free, but we will only be able to say that the human rights situation in China has improved when people like Wang Dan are able to call for political change without fear of being sent to a labor camp or charged with endangering state security," said Sidney Jones of the New York-based Human Rights Watch.

The maneuvering for Wang's freedom, according to American and Chinese sources familiar with the negotiations, began almost as soon as Wei won his. Wei's release made Wang Dan the best-known dissident still confined in China's prison system — and thus the next subject of Sino-American bargaining.

Ex-Beatle McCartney's wife dies

LONDON (AP) — Linda McCartney, the American photographer who broke a generation of teen-age girls' hearts when she married Beatle Paul McCartney, has died of breast cancer, his publicist said. She was 56.

Linda McCartney died Friday while on vacation in Santa Barbara, California, Geoff Baker said Sunday. Her husband and children were with her.

"The blessing was that the end came quickly and she didn't suffer," a statement from Sir Paul McCartney's office said. Two days before her death, Linda and Paul had been horseback riding, one of her main passions, the statement said.

Baker said the family was very close and that Paul and Linda had only once spent a night apart in their 30 years together.

The couple announced in December 1995 that Linda McCartney, a vegetarian who marketed her own meat-free dishes, was being treated for breast cancer.

The treatment at first appeared to be working well, but in March the cancer was found to have spread to her liver, Sunday's statement said.

It said Sir Paul, 55, will issue a statement later in the week.

Stripes

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Naval fliers relive glory days

By Washington Post

The pilots returned to the Roost this weekend. Not enough of them to keep Johnny Dolak from fretting about a dying era, but enough to keep the flame burning.

The Roost, a legendary Navy watering hole, stands just down the road from the main gate at Patuxent River Naval Air Station in Maryland that has been bursting with The Right Stuff for the past several days, as two of the most exclusive associations of military pilots brought back a legion of famed astronauts, war heroes and test pilots.

The dual reunions served as a reminder of the golden age of aviation at the Navy base in Southern Maryland, when the first astronauts were being trained and speed records were being set. But it's an era whose legends are fast fading.

Nobody knows this better than Dolak, the bartender at the Roost, who was working the day it opened in 1947.

In the old days, almost all of the pi-

lots went to the Roost. "If you couldn't go out with the tigers at night and fly with the eagles in the morning, you weren't in," said Dolak, a short, effusive man who works seven days a week despite his 70-odd years.

The U.S. Naval Test Pilot School at Patuxent River, the famed training ground that has played a key role in space exploration and aircraft testing and whose pilots were depicted in the 1979 Tom Wolfe book, *The Right Stuff*, is holding its 50th annual reunion this weekend.

Thursday, the base was host to an even more exclusive group, the Golden Eagles, an invitation-only group of naval aviation pioneers whose numbers include 19 fighter aces, five Medal of Honor winners from World War II, Korea and Vietnam, and eight holders of world speed, altitude, distance, endurance and time-to-climb records.

Even the names of the Golden Eagles attending conveyed the panache of a bygone day. Swoose Snead. Corky Meyer. Smoke Strean. Dutch

Schoultz. Wam Mackey. Whitey Feightner. Flash Gordon.

Their ranks also included Wally Schirra, one of the original seven Project Mercury astronauts who blazed a trail into space, and James Lovell, commander of the ill-fated Apollo 13, which never landed on the moon. They were test pilots and classmates stationed at the base in the late 1950s.

"It was a golden age of aviation," said Bill Ramsey, a retired admiral and test pilot. "It was an absolutely magnificent time to be here."

The Navy was churning out one jet model after another in the 1950s and 1960s, and they all had to be tested at Pax. "We had a new aircraft every three or four months," Schirra said.

"We used to crash them — that was the way we tested them," Ramsey said. "We can't afford that anymore."

The Golden Eagles toured the only two aircraft being tested at Patuxent, the F/A-18 Super Hornet and the V-22 Osprey tilt rotor aircraft.

A single Super Hornet costs \$73 million.

Sunday services held in aftermath of twister

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)
— Congregations took a break from tornado cleanup Sunday to worship in parking lots, tents and churches damaged by last week's storms.

St. Ann's Episcopal Church, demolished by the tornadoes that killed six people and damaged or destroyed more than 1,600 homes and businesses in Tennessee, confirmed 10 new members in a

tent beside the rubble of the 1882 sanctuary.

"That's what this community is all about — birth and rebirth," said Sue Ross, senior warden at the church. "We're about embracing people and we continue in that mission whether the building is here or not."

Light rainfall tapered off across much of the state Sunday, easing the threat of flooding, but half a dozen people were evacuated from a camp-ground at Pigeon Forge in the Smoky Mountains when a creek rose out of its banks during the morning.

Flooding in east Tennessee caused by heavy rain that accompanied Thursday's tornadoes killed two women.

Hardest hit by the flooding was the mountainous northeast corner of the state. In Union County, more than 650 miles of county road were damaged, five homes were destroyed and about 50 homes were damaged, officials said.

Heavy rain also caused flooding in southeastern Kentucky, where dozens of residents were evacuated. Roads were swamped by high water and mudslides, and downtown Middlesboro, near the Tennessee line, was flooded.

Healing, progress urged on 3rd bombing anniversary

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Michael Hinton grimaced and finally succumbed to tears Sunday when the names of his slain co-workers were read aloud at the third anniversary of the federal building bombing.

"You have to move on with life, but at the same time, you never forget," the Secret Service agent said.

Survivors, relatives of victims and others gathered Sunday at the site of the Al-

fred P. Murrah Federal Building, where a truck bomb killed 168 people on April 19, 1995.

Hundreds of people rang small bells after 168 seconds of silence — one second for each of the dead — and placed flowers and mementos on the grass-covered site.

Across the street, a grassy field served as a playground for young Rebecca and Brandon Denny, who were in a secondfloor day care center in the federal building when the bomb exploded. Their father, Jim Denny, said facial scars are all the physical problems that remain for 5-year-old Rebecca, but 6-year-old Brandon has brain damage and can't hold anything with his right hand. The children still remember being in the "bad building with thunder and fire," Denny said. "But unlike adults, kids can talk about it and go on with their lives."

Jon Benet note called 'ridiculous'

By Associated Press

BOULDER, Colo. — The key to solving JonBenet Ramsey's slaying may be contained in 430 words of small, sometimes shaky script that two experts suggest were written to throw investigators off the killer's track.

As the investigation winds down and heads toward a grand jury, the 2 1/2-page ransom note looms large as one uncontaminated piece of evidence in the 15-month-old case

Yet the note initially caused

trouble: Police, accepting it as proof of a kidnapping and assuming the missing child had been whisked away, allowed friends and family to wander unescorted through the house and taint the crime scene.

No officer was with John Ramsey, for instance, when he went to a basement storage room and returned carrying his daughter's beaten and strangled body.

"The note was totally ridiculous from the standpoint of having any credibility as a kidnap note," former FBI pro-

filer Robert Ressler told The Associated Press.

Police "wasted effectively eight hours of crucial time in buying this kidnap note."

But, said Ressler, "get the person that wrote that note and that person may not have killed JonBenet, but they certainly know what happened."

For that reason, he said, "It's probably the best piece of evidence they have."

Police Cmdr. Mark Beckner, who took over the investigation in October, called the note important but would not say what conclusions authorities have drawn from it.

Ressler has assisted with hundreds of investigations, including those of multiple murderers Charles Manson, Ted Bundy, Jeffrey Dahmer and John Wayne Gacy.

Now a private consultant in forensic behavioral science and based in Virginia, Ressler said the evidence, including the autopsy, suggests Jon-Benet was killed accidentally and "an elaborate cover-up was done to divert police away from the crime."

Small plane carrying pot crashes after Customs chase

DETROIT (AP) — A small plane loaded with marijuana crashed in a baseball field Sunday night after being chased from Texas by U.S. Customs planes. Residents ran to help, but some fled with bundles of drugs while the pilot was dying, witnesses said.

Three Customs planes had been chasing the aircraft — carrying 300 pounds of marijuana — since El Paso, Texas, Fire Chief Lee Moore said. The pilot apparently ran low on fuel before crashing in the field, about 1,500 miles from El Paso.

Customs officials began following the plane in Texas as part of a routine surveillance operation, authorities said.

Customs officials often follow planes near the U.S. and Mexican border, said Moore, who believes the pilot was trying to get to Canada.

"I'm assuming in his desperation there was an attempt to stop in this field." Moore said.

Customs officials did not return phone calls seeking comment.

Neighbor Gloria Johnson said she heard a boom, saw the plane hit a tree and then crash into the field. She said the pilot was still alive when neighbors ran to help.

"There were big bundles of drugs and money all around the plane," Johnson said.

"The bundles of marijuana looked like two big suitcases."

Johnson said she saw people leave the scene with some of the packages.

"A couple of guys came to help, then grabbed the bags of drugs and left," Johnson said. Police would not confirm that.

Two pilots die in crash at air show

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — Two single-engine biplanes collided during acrobatic maneuvers at an air show Sunday and crashed in flames, killing both pilots.

The planes fell to the ground in a field about 1,000 yards from the nearly 5,000 spectators, said Deputy Police Chief Ren Taylor.

Pilots James Edward Lovelace and Randall L. Drake were killed and two police officers suffered minor injuries when they tried to pull the pilots from the burning wreckage.

Sean Kelly was taking pictures when the planes hit.

"I believe the strong wind pushed them into each other — it was real windy," Kelly said.

"When they hit, you could hear the loud clap of the wings hitting each other," he said. "They got intertwined and they couldn't break off. Then they started falling very rapidly. There wasn't any fire until they hit the ground."

The four planes of the Red Baron Stearman Squadron were winding up their performance at the Kissimmee Air Show of the Stars when two of the planes collided at an altitude of about 1,500 feet, Taylor said. The crash happened about 11:30 a.m. as the second day of the air show was getting under way.

Shuttle experiments look like fun

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — At times, the orbiting laboratory aboard space shuttle Columbia looks more like an outer space amusement park than a serious research facility.

The crew of scientists and doctors has played catch with a ball, peered through a virtual-reality machine mounted on their heads and spun around in a rotating chair. But shuttle Commander Richard Searfoss says that while the experiments may look like fun and games, their results could provide important answers to medical questions plaguing both astronauts and earthlings. "The thrust of this research is twofold — not only to enable astronauts to remain in space for longer durations of time off into the future ... but we're very hopeful that in the long term, there'll be clinical benefits back on Earth." Searfoss said.

Cohen backs military aid to Egyptians

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Visiting Defense Secretary William Cohen on Sunday said the United States would continue to provide grants and equipment to help Egypt modernize its armed forces.

He said that as part of Americaís \$1.3 billion in military aid this year, Egypt would receive 50 Avenger mobile launch vehicles with Stinger missiles, two frigates, torpedoes, Harpoon anti-ship missiles and tank recovery vehicles.

"The United States will continue to support Egypt's program to modernize its military," Cohen said. "This year we are going to provide \$1.3 billion in grants, and our troops are going to continue to exercise and train together."

Egypt receives \$2.1 billion in American military and development aid each year, second only to Israel's \$3 billion in aid.

Cohen spoke with reporters after meeting for 90 minutes with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. He said they discussed the stalled Israeli-Arab peace process, regional terrorism and the need to continue keeping close watch on Iran and Iraq.

He later laid a wreath at the memorial to Egypt's unknown soldier, saying it was to irecognize Egypt's leadership and sacrifice in the struggle for peace and give thanks that Egypt is continuing that campaign."

Before leaving for Israel, Cohen was to visit 900 U.S. troops on duty with a multinational peacekeeping force in the Sinai today.

Cohen earlier visited Turkey and Jordan, and his regional tour also will take him to Greece.

Battered animals given new shot at life by pair

By Stars and Stripes

SARAJEVO, Bosnia and Herzegovina — Like jagged shrapnel, two sounds of pain and terror remain forever embedded in Velimir Ivansevic-Beran's memory.

The first was a womanis scream that penetrated the walls of his apartment early one morning before dawn during the civil war that wracked Bosnia and Herzegovina for 3 1/2 years.

The other was also a scream, but this particular cry filled Ivansevic-Beran's ears well after the war had ended. It was the tortured howl of a large dog being strangled by four men.

"If the war is a killing time, peace should not be another time to kill," said the tall, bearded artist as he talked with visitors in the tiny living room of the apartment he shares with his wife, Silva, and the couple's two dogs, Cipi and Jokolo, in Sarajevo.

"When the killing time stops, we continue to kill dogs."

The Ivansevic-Berans are on a mission — a mission in which success is gauged not by total victory but by small triumphs here and there.

These kinds of triumphs:

- The comeback puppy. Dying on the streets of Sarajevo, it was saved at last by Velimir and Silva, who found an adoptive home for the dog.
- The tough family. A mother dog and her babies survived another day in their brushy, urban hideaway because of the dry dog food Silva took the little family.
- Mutt moxie. The abandoned dog recovered from wounds he suffered at

the hands and feet of local children.

Postwar Sarajevo bustles amid its ruins. It is a city on the rebound from grief. But an overpopulation of dogs is a growing tragedy there, and the Ivansevic-Berans are struggling to bring a measure of humanity to the crisis.

"Right now, we care most to find homes for dogs from the street. That's our purpose," said Velimir.

Thousands of dogs live on the run in Sarajevo. The number of stray and abandoned dogs multiplied dramatically during Bosnia's civil war when owners were killed or when they abandoned or let loose their pets. Many of those animals and their descendants live and breed in abandoned buildings and shelters that lie in the middle of suspected minefields, dog control officials say.

Other dog owners allow their animals to breed, then take no responsibility for the surviving puppies.

As the Ivansevic-Berans have witnessed, little respect for canine life has survived the war.

Children, their respect for all life twisted by the civil war's carnage and devastation, casually torture and kill dogs. Dog catchers employed by the municipality to trim Sarajevo's street dog population use a type of wire garrote to painfully wrest animals into their trucks.

Once taken into custody, the captured dogs have three days to languish, caged, at Sarajevo's dog control center that overlooks the city and an urban landfill.

If not claimed within three days, the dogs are killed by lethal injection.

Hemisphere leaders set date for starting talks

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — Leaders of the Western Hemisphere's 34 democracies overlooked political and economic uncertainties Sunday and forged ahead with a bold plan for hemispheric duty-free trade by 2005. They directed negotiations to begin in September.

The talks will start in Miami and finish in Mexico City.

"Here in Santiago the ground has been broken for the largest free trade area in history," Chilean President Eduardo Frei told the concluding summit session.

The combined economies total \$9 trillion and encompass nearly 800 million people.

The assembled leaders, at the second Summit of the Americas, called for specific accomplishments, such as standardized customs forms, as early as 2000.

"Our journey from Miami to Santiago was ... from words to deeds," said President Clinton, who presided over the first summit meeting in Miami in 1994. "Today we launch comprehensive negotiations for a Free Trade Area of the Americas."

117-year-old woman claims oldest mantle

ALLENTOWN, Pa. (AP) — Sarah Knauss had a simple response when she learned she was the oldest woman alive.

"So what?" the 117-year-old said Friday.

Marie-Louise Febronie Meilleur, a Canadian woman who died Thursday, was Knauss' senior by 26 days. The Guinness Book of World Records has officially passed the mantle to Knauss.

Born Sept. 24, 1880, in a small mining town, she married Abraham Lincoln Knauss in 1901.

Abe, a well known Lehigh County Republican leader and recorder of deeds, died in 1965 at age 86. His and Sarah Knauss' daughter, Kathryn Sullivan, is 93.

Sarah Knauss moved into a nursing home seven years ago. She can often be seen watching golf on television, or keeping an eye on Kathryn as she does needlepoint during visits with her mother.

Her passions are milk chocolate turtles, cashews and potato chips.

"She's a very tranquil person and nothing fazes her," her daughter said Friday. "That's why she's living this long."

Sarah Knauss' eyesight is still sharp enough for her to read the morning paper, but she is nearly deaf and communication is increasingly difficult.

Julie Andrews' favorites hitting auction block

By Associated Press

A few of Julie Andrew's favorite things are going on the auction block.

The actress and her filmmaker-husband are selling many of the baubles they've given each other, according to the latest People magazine. Sotheby's plans to auction the gifts on May 5.

Among the items to be sold: a Cartier watch, a diamond pendant that Edwards

gave Andrews after filming the movie 10, and a diamond ring he gave her early in their relationship.

'n' places

Faces

"Julie and Blake are addictive buyers," said An-

drews' publicist, who was not identified by People. "If we entered them in the Olympics for shopping, they'd probably win a gold medal."

Andrews starred in the movie versions of *Mary Poppins* and *The Sound of Music* and played the lead character in Edwards' 1982 film *Victor/Victoria*, a role she recreated on Broadway in 1995.

Crossed signals

Maybe poet Lawrence Ferlinghetti and Czech Republic President Vaclav Havel should call first before planning a visit.

Ferlinghetti, in Prague to participate in a reading of his works, hoped to meet with the president. But Havel is hospitalized in Austria after having emergency surgery for a ruptured colon. Havel, an accomplished playwright, had visited Ferlinghetti's home city of San Francisco several years ago but Ferlinghetti was then in Europe.

"Unfortunately, we keep missing each other," the 79-year-old Ferlinghetti said.

Ferlinghetti's City Lights bookstore in San Francisco was the center for Beat generation writers in the 1950s. Former Premier Vaclav Klaus and Foreign Minister Jaroslav Sedivy are among those scheduled to read Ferlinghetti's works during a three-day Nonstop Ferlinghetti tribute that began Sunday afternoon.

Unclear on the concept

Former first lady Barbara Bush had a little trouble explaining the whereabouts of Millie, the former first dog, to a group of first-graders.

The former first lady was paying a visit to Paradise Elementary School in Las Vegas on Friday when the children asked about the popular brown-and-white springer spaniel, who died last year. Bush told the children the dog was in heaven. But some kids still didn't get it.

"Why don't you get Mr. Bush to carry her here?" asked one student, referring to former President George Bush. "Could you just go back there and get her?"

In The Stars and Stripes

10 YEARS AGO

April 20, 1988 — Supporters of retired automaker John Demjanjuk were outraged that Israeli judges convicted him as the Nazi death camp guard Ivan the Terrible and said the decision will arouse anti-Semitism in America.

20 YEARS AGO

April 20, 1978 — Thousands of jubilant Panamanians rushed into the streets cheering ratification of the final Panama Canal treaty by the U.S. Senate.

30 YEARS AGO

April 20, 1968— The FBI identified Eric Starvo Galt, sought in the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., as James Earl Ray, an escapee from the Missouri State Penitentiary.

40 YEARS AGO

April 20, 1958 — An enthusiastic crowd crammed into the Moscow Conservatory to hear American Van Cliburn give his first public recital as winner of the Tchaikovsky international piano competition.

50 YEARS AGO

April 20, 1948 — In national elections, Italians voted more than 67 percent noncommunist and assured themselves of a government aligned with Western Europe.

Monarchy struts stuff at Hapsburg wedding

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — Pomp worthy of the Austro-Hungarian Empire was on display Saturday as royals and nobles packed a church for the latest wedding of a member of the storied Hapsburg family, the second wedding in six months and the third in six years.

Hungarians without the proper lineage—the media included—were left standing outside to try to catch a glimpse of Archduchess Margherita Hapsburg-Lothringen and Count Benedikt Piatti.

"Sometimes I wonder if the monarchy has really come to an end," said Ilonka Szebenyi, 68, braving the rain outside majestic Matthew's Church on Castle Hill.

Saberhagen wins again for Boston

By Associated Press

Bret Saberhagen is starting to look like the pitcher who won AL Cy Young Awards in 1985 and 1989.

After missing all of 1996 and most of 1997 following shoulder surgery, Saberhagen is 3-0. He threw six shutout innings Sunday to lead the Boston Red Sox over the Cleveland Indians 2-0.

"I haven't surprised myself, but I think I've surprised a lot of other people," Saberhagen said.

Saberhagen, who pitched in just six games last season, struck out four and walked one. He has won three straight decisions for the first time since June 18-28, 1995.

"I feel a lot better than last year or the year before," he said. "It was nice to go out there and not only get the win, but for the team to win."

Jim Corsi followed Saberhagen and

Tom Gordon pitched the ninth for his fourth save in five chances, completing a seven-hitter.

Boston improved to 8-1 in Fenway Park this season.

"Saberhagen's velocity surprised a lot of us," Cleveland manager Mike Hargrove said. "We knew he was throwing



well, but didn't know his velocity was as good as it was. We helped him out by swinging at bad pitches."

In other games, Tampa Bay beat Anaheim 3-0, Detroit beat New York 2-1,

Seattle beat Minnesota 7-4, Toronto beat Chicago 5-4 in 12 innings, Texas beat Baltimore 11-7 and Kansas City beat Oakland 7-3.

At Fenway, Dave Burba (2-2) allowed two runs and nine hits in seven innings. Darren Bragg had a career-high four hits for Boston.

Boston got its runs on sacrifice flies by Jim Leyritz in the fifth and Mark Lemke in the sixth.

"There were some question marks in the beginning of the season, but our pitching staff top to bottom has done very well," Boston's Mo Vaughn said.

"That's three good starts for him and that's as encouraging for us as it is for him."

In Anaheim, Tampa Bay (10-6) became the first expansion team to move four games above .500 and have a winning record after 16 games and are just a halfgame out of first place in the AL East.

Rolando Arrojo (2-1) allowed six hits in seven innings at Anaheim, and Dan Carlson and Roberto Hernandez completed the six-hitter.

Allen Watson (0-2) gave up all the runs and eight hits in 4 1-3 innings.

Marathon will boast a big field

BOSTON (AP) — Reigning Boston Marathon champion Lameck Aguta is back in Kenya, recovering from injuries. Three-time women's winner Uta Pippig will be analyzing the race for a local TV station, along with Bill Rodgers and Joan Benoit Samuelson.

Some of the biggest names may be sidelined, but the 102nd Boston Marathon wasn't lacking participants when 11,499 runners left Hopkinton today for the 26,2-mile run to Copley Square. The field was the race's largest except for the 38,708 who ran in the centennial edition in 1996.

Rain was expected to douse the runners as they waited for the start in Hopkinton. But race officials hoped the weather would clear and allow for a fast pace to match this weekend's Rotterdam Marathon, where Kenyan Tegla Loroupe set a world best with a time of 2 hours, 20 minutes, 47 seconds.

Round-trippers abound as Rockies, Braves split

DENVER (AP) — Larry Walker hit his first homer of the season and the Colorado Rockies used a six-run third inning Sunday night to beat Atlanta 10-7 and gain a doubleheader split with the Braves.

Andres Galarraga, who spent the past five seasons in Colorado, homered for Atlanta in both ends of the day-night doubleheader. The Braves tied an NL record by scoring all their



runs on five homers to win the first game 5-3.

The power trend continued in Game 2 as Walker hit a solo shot off Dennis Martinez (1-2) in the first inning, and Galarraga countered with a three-run homer in the third.

Rockies starter Jamey Wright (1-2) gave up four runs on eight hits and in 5 2-3 innings. Jerry Dipoto pitched the ninth for his fourth save.

In the first game, Chipper Jones hit his NL-leading ninth homer, and Javy Lopez, Michael Tucker and Keith Lockhart homered for the Braves to support starter Kevin Millwood (3-0). Mark Thompson (1-1) gave up all five homers.

In other action, it was Mets 14, Reds 0; Brewers 3, Giants 2; Cardinals 3, Phillies 2; Cubs 2, Dodgers 1; Expos 5, Astros 4; Marlins 4, Diamondbacks 3

In Cincinnati, John Olerud and Bernard Gilkey each had three RBIs and Al Leiter (3-1) allowed four hits in seven shutout innings as the Mets tied a team record for victory margin in a shutout, set against the Cubs on July 29, 1965. Gilkey became the fourth Met to score five runs in a game.

Gabe White (0-2) allowed five runs and seven hits in 4 1-3 innings.

In Milwaukee, Marquis Grissom singled home Bobby Hughes with the bases loaded in the 12th inning as Milwaukee won its fourth straight. San Francisco has lost four straight, scoring just five runs during the slide.

Hughes, pinch hitting against John Johnstone (1-1) to open the 12th, singled for his first major league hit and took third on Jeff Cirillo's one-out double. Jeromy Burnitz was intentionally walked with two outs, and Grissom followed with the winning single. Bob Wickman (1-3) allowed three hits in three shutout innings. In St. Louis, Kent Mercker pitched seven shutout innings.

Packers' Reggie White retires

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — The Minister of Defense has called it quits.

Reggie White, one of the greatest players in NFL history and the league's career sacks leader, is retiring because of a chronic bad back.

"I'm sure he wishes he could have gone out a little differently than he did," Green Bay Packers general manager Ron Wolf said. "But he's still going to be recognized as one of the greatest players ever to play in the National Football League and one of the greatest players to play his position."

Stars hoping they'll shine in playoffs

By Associated Press

It took until the NHL's final weekend to show which team was best in the regular season. Now the Dallas Stars will have to prove themselves all over again in the Stanley Cup playoffs.

"This is a real steppingstone, something we can be proud of," Joe Nieuwendyk said of the Presidents' Trophy which signifies the best record in the NHL. "We wanted this trophy. But now is when it all really starts."



The team said White, 36, who recently was criticized for insensitive remarks in a speech to Wisconsin lawmakers, would hold a farewell news conference Wednesday.

"I'm very happy that we did win a Super Bowl while he was here and we came very close to a second one last year," coach Mike Holmgren said. "He will be missed for a lot of reasons, but in some respects it's time."

White's retirement, while not unexpected, was saluted with sadness.

"I'm sorry to hear that for the game of

football," Indianapolis Colts president Bill Polian said. "Reggie's been clearly, along with Bruce Smith, the dominant defensive lineman in this era. Reggie has been good for the teams he played for and for the community.

"Reggie stands out like a beacon in the night. He's a future Hall of Famer and the NFL will miss him." He was to enter the second year of a five-year contract extension and make a base salary of \$2.6 million in 1998. White's arrival in Green Bay in 1993 following a much-publicized tour of league cities.

Nets final playoff team; Suns, Hornets winners

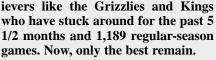
NBA

By Associated Press

The NBA regular season ended at 11:38 p.m. EDT Sunday when Vancouver and Sacramento played the fi-

nal few seconds of overtime in the last bad-vs.bad matchup to be seen for awhile.

The new season begins today, and fans won't have to put up with the laggards and underach-



And the New Jersey Nets earned the right to be called one of them Sunday by qualifying for the final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference — and the right to play the defending champion Chicago Bulls with a 114-101 victory over the De-

troit Pistons. "We'll be playing the best team in basketball, and the whole world — and everyone in the NBA — will be watching," All-Star center Jayson Williams said. "Now everybody can see what the New Jersey Nets have accomplished." Most of the other games Sunday were meaningless, but there were a couple with playoff implications. Charlotte defeated Orlando 89-76 to clinch homecourt advantage in its first-round series against Atlanta, Phoenix defeated Houston 123-93 to clinch the home court against San Antonio, and Seattle beat Portland 90-82 to win the Pacific Division. In other games, the Los Angeles Lakers beat Utah 102-98, Atlanta defeated Miami 101-89, San Antonio downed Denver 96-82, Philadelphia topped Toronto 107-78 and Vancouver nipped Sacramento 112-108 in overtime.

Future uncertain for Lakers' West

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP) — Los Angeles Lakers executive Jerry West told reporters Sunday he's not going to retire, but also said he "just wants to disappear" and may never work again after next August.

In a rambling 15-minute news conference follow-

ing the Lakers' 102-98 victory over the Utah Jazz, West was choked up at times and contradicted himself on occasion.

"I just want to disappear," West said.

"To be candid with you, I don't want to be interviewed anymore, I don't want to sign any more autographs, I just want to get away.

"It's something I think I need.

"If I was suicidal, I'd probably be dead by now," he added, citing pressures of the job and the fact that he held so much power over young basketball players' lives.